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Newsletter

Number 6

11 March 2011



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

... our 2010 sponsors for their support - and those signing up for 2011.
.. those who support the school through the Fuel for Schools programme
.. our senior camp parents
.. our regular (and not so regular) parent helpers whose contributions remain greatly appreciated.
.. Sheryl Harte who is stepping down after many years service as the school's Maori liaison person.

People of the week

.. definitely our camp parents, teachers and children
.. Calum who was a big help with making the bacon & egg pies for senior camp by cracking 180 eggs! And putting the pies together with his mum. Awesome job!
.. Karmelle Easton for helping sort Library shelving in her own time.
.. Connan Wiegersma for finding a missing key.

Please keep us informed of the achievements of present and past pupils so that we can celebrate these together.

NZ Book Month

Each child has been given a \$5 book voucher which can be spent on a book worth \$10 or more from Market Books, Whitcoulls, Paper Plus. This has been sponsored by Caltex and many others in an effort to promote reading at home.

Trail Ride 2011

Sunday 3rd April 2011

A meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th March 2011 at 7pm in the staffroom at school. If you are unable to attend please contact Alister Rickey on 4355509 and let him know how you can help out.



**Major
School Fundraiser**

Matarau School Recipe Book Fundraiser

As a fundraiser we would like to publish a Matarau School recipe book. Please could you email faithfull.family@xtra.co.nz with your favourite recipe or pop a hard copy in to Helen at the office and we will compile a book. Kids are encouraged to be involved too. Who knows we may find NZ's next Master Chef amongst us!

Interschool Swimming Sports (15.3)

A reminder this event is scheduled for Tuesday 15 March at Whangarei Intermediate School - years 4 to 6 in the morning, year 7 and 8's from 12:30. Transport and supervision is the responsibility of parents who may return children to school after events if they wish. Please ensure children bring sunhats, sunblock, warm clothing, lunch and plenty to drink. A special thanks to Sharon Martin and Teresa Dunn who have offered to act as team managers. Attending parents are asked to help team managers by having children ready well in advance of their races. Best of luck to all of our swimmers.

School Swimming Sports - 17.3

Our School Swimming Sports takes place Thursday 17 March and so you might like to pencil this in to your diaries.

Events run most of the day culminating in a junior demonstration, relays and acknowledgements at the end of the day. You, and extended family, are invited to share this day with us - more details to follow.

The day will roughly unfold as follows (but to be confirmed next week) ..

10:00	Interval	10:30	Freestyle races
11:25	Backstroke races	12:15	Breaststroke races
12:50	Lunch	1:30	Junior Display
2:10	Relays	2:40	Wrap up / announcements / acknowledgements

Please note these are approximate times. Drinks and sausages will be on sale as part of senior fundraising. Scotty would still love to hear from someone able to help with the sausage sizzle.

A special thanks to Heatpump Professionals who are sponsors of this year's swimming sports.

International Schools English and Maths Competitions

Consent forms for the above competitions were sent home two weeks ago to those children who participated last year, and to those who expressed interest in participating this year. If you did not receive a consent form, and would like one, please contact the school office next week. Consents are due back at school by Friday 18 March - NO EXTENSIONS PLEASE. Teachers are more than happy to discuss your child's potential involvement with you.

International Schools Maths Competition - Year 8 Students

Parents of year 8 students are reminded that these students will all be required to sit the Mathematics Exam as part of their senior programme with the cost met by the school. Year 8 students sitting the English exam will, however, be required to pay the \$7.50 entrance fee for the English Exam.

Interschool Triathlon - Year 7 and 8 .. is scheduled for 24 March at One Tree Point. Details to follow.

Consents for various events

Some staff have had difficulty recently collecting consents for forthcoming excursions or sporting events. We get these out as early as we can but usually need a response within a week (or sometimes within days). Delays can cost us a lot of time spent tracking these forms as well as deny other children the opportunity to attend / participate if your child will not be attending. Please get all consents back to school as soon as possible. The general newsletter usually advises when an event is coming up and sometimes even when consents will be issued and so you will know when to ask your children for these. Your help with this would be very much appreciated and will save organising teachers so much time. A special thanks to parents who so willingly give their time to assist with these events.

Bus Children - High Visibility Vests

We have noticed that the number of bus children wearing their high visibility vests this year has dropped markedly on last year. These vests are a significant step we can all take to raise the level of safety of those children while walking to and from (or waiting at) bus stops. Please ensure your child has their vest on before they head off in the morning, and we will try our best to ensure they put it on at the end of the day.

Mobile Ear Clinic .. outside Bush Rd Med. Centre 8:30-3:30 - 15.3.11. No app. nec. Pre-schoolers welcome.

School Contributions / Trips and Events Fee

Thanks to those who have made early payment. If you have not yet made payment please do so at your earliest convenience. If feeling financially stretched at the moment parents are welcome to contact Kevin to discuss alternative payment arrangements. You will find us accommodating and discreet.

Fuel for Schools .. a call to local businesses

If interested in sponsoring the school through this programme you can nominate our school by visiting Northfuels at www.northfuels.co.nz or on 0800 484 3543. Northfuels are happy to answer any questions you might have.

PMP

We would really appreciate further offers to assist with this important programme. If able to help please give Mrs Robertson a call. PMP takes place every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon - even if you can help on one of these afternoons it enables us to give existing parent helpers the occasional break.

Reminder - ASB School Banking .. Please remind your children to ensure they drop their banking into the elephant in the Reception area as this is cleared weekly.

Buses .. Please advise the office of any changes to your child's usual bus arrangements.

Headlice Checks

It is in the interests of all families that prompt action is taken by parents who receive a letter advising of detection of headlice. If action is not taken within 24 to 48 hours, children who have been treated, can be quickly reinfested. Where headlice are detected children will be rechecked weekly until there is evidence of appropriate treatment. From experience we know that, with the co-operation of all parents, this policy ensures infestation rates remain at very low levels. While we are concerned at the implications of repeat chemical treatments, adherence to our current policy usually leads to significantly less chemical exposure over time than otherwise would be the case. If we can assist in any way, please advise. Our public health nurse (Phillipa Butturini) can also provide assistance and be contacted on 021 2445407.

Community Notices

For Sale - Round hay bales, \$70 each, Phone Dave 021731223

For Sale - Girl Guide Biscuits outside Kamo Hammer Hardware this Saturday 12th March, from 9am-1pm or until sold out.

Cleaner Available - Reasonable rates, phone Pamela 4335032

Matarau School D Grade Hockey Team - Anyone interested in playing for Matarau School this season please phone Cristine on 4335885 or 0276379531.

Hikurangi Under 7s Ripper Rugby Team - Looking for new players to join our team. If interested we will be meeting 3.15 Wednesday 16th March on the bottom field or phone Eddie 4335994 or Michelle 0275558389.

Ruatangata Hockey - All children interested in playing for Ruatangata this season please phone and register their interest before Wednesday 16 March on 4701445. Rally day will be held Sunday 20th March at Kensington Hockey Turf. A&B Grade (Yrs 6+), 9am; C Grade (Yrs 4-6), 10.15; D&E Grade (Yrs 2-4) 11.00. Please bring all gear and suitable clothing and footwear.

Bike Glenbervie - Sunday 20 March, Glenbervie Forest HQ, Maruata Rd, Glenbervie. Register 9am. \$10/ adults, \$5/children, 4 trail options of various distances and challenges, heaps of spot prizes. For further info contact Peter Smith, ph 4303186 or email pcsmith.rotary@gmail.com. Registration forms available at the school office.

On Guard - Whangarei Swords Club, Fencing Advocate Stadium, Kensington 6.30-8.30pm Tuesday night beginning Tuesday 15th March, 12 yrs & older, Dress in tacksuit pants, t-shirt and white soled sneakers and bring along \$2.

Junior Tiger Golf Championship - Waipu Golf club, 11am tee off 27th March. Register online now at www.juniortiger.co.nz. The winner will represent NZ at the World Junior Golf Champs in the USA, including a trip to Disneyland with a family member.

Allens Northland Kids Triathlon - Sunday March 13, Onerahi. Entries close March 4, \$15 + race pack worth \$50 of cool stuff. Enter online at allens.co.nz (follow links) or phone any allens office for an entry form.

Cancer Society Northland Relay for Life - Last call for team entries, Held March 19-20th Lots of fund for all ages and fitness levels. Visit www.relayforlife.org.nz or call 09 4375593. Entries close March 1st.

Federated Farmers Farm Day - Interactive family event. Experience sights and smells of a working farm. Safe & tactile experience for people of all ages, Sunday 13 March (10am-3pm) For more info contact Matthew Long on 094343370 or email matty.j.long@xtra.co.nz.

House Clean Available - Reliable 17 yr old female Polytech Student, experienced with references available. Please phone Hannah 02102771725

School Newsletter .. If you would like to receive this by email contact us on admin@matarau.school.nz

Virtues 2011 - THERE IS STILL TIME TO VOTE!!

This year our focus virtue is BEING VALUED. The children will all participate in defining what it means to be valued and what it looks like when we value others. This year we thought we would invite parents to help us decide on our six supporting virtues (2 for each of terms 2 to 4).

If you would like to especially see us focus on any of the following please email Mr Trehwella by 25 March at principal@matarau.school.nz and he will tally your responses. Your options are as follows ..

Compassion, Courtesy, Faithfulness, Forgiveness, Helpfulness, Justice, Kindness, Loyalty, Respect, Tact, Trustworthiness, Truthfulness.

Places for out of zone enrolments

The school continues to receive enquiries about places for out of zone enrolments. Currently we have no available places at years 1 to 6 and would need to advertise a mid-year ballot in order to create further places. The board has asked me to assess the viability and potential impact of a small increase in 2011 out of zone enrolments. In order to do this, it would be helpful if parents could advise me of any "out of zone" family which has expressed interest in enrolling their child(ren) at Matarau School. It is certainly not our intention to grow the school much beyond its current size (which we consider to be pretty optimal), but we do need to manage our roll very carefully into the future in order to secure current levels of funding and staffing. If you have any information (from interested families who may not yet have contacted us) please advise me on principal@matarau.school.nz

A number of places remain available at year 7 and 8 from our initial ballot and so please feel free to mention this to parents of children in year 7 and 8 who may be looking for a change. Academic programmes in our year 7 and 8 classes are of an extremely high standard and class numbers are only slightly more than half the size of urban schools (even with a further slight increase) - delivering twice the value and twice the teacher time. Our feedback from those with a wide knowledge of what's on offer at year 7 and 8 gives us confidence that our year 7 and 8 programme is the best available - a fact we think may not be widely appreciated.

Finally

"The two best physicians of them all - Dr Laughter and Dr Sleep." Dr Gregory Dean M.D. 1907-1979

Regards
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them



Friday Lunches



Reminder

Don't forget to
order on **Wednesday**
for Friday

Filled Rolls now available as well as the hot pies and sausage rolls. Orders need to be at the office by Wednesday to receive a lunch on Friday. This is a fundraising venture for the school and any profit is directed towards the children of the school. Any queries please call the office.

Sausage Roll, Mince Pie, Big Daddy with Drink \$4.00 Ham/Salad Rolls with Drink \$4.50
NEW!!!! Ham Sandwich/roll - no salad with Drink \$3.50